



## HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION

3430 Court House Drive ■ Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 ■ 410-313-4312

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Emily Ranson, Chair  
Ted Cochran, Vice Chair

[Transportation@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:Transportation@howardcountymd.gov)

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### BICYCLE ADVISORY GROUP (BAG)

June 14, 2022 at 3p.m.

Held via WebEx event

3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043

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#### **BAG Members Present:**

1. Emily Ranson, Clean Water Action (CHAIR)
2. Ted Cochran, Free Bikes 4 Kidz, Multimodal Transportation Board (VICE CHAIR)
3. Lt. Aaron Dombrowsky, Howard County Police Department
4. Colette Gelwicks for Christiana Rigby, Howard County Council (RP), Council Member, Dist. 3
5. Jack Guarneri, Bike HoCo
6. Jennifer Biddle, Howard County Department of Public Works
7. Jessica Bellah, Columbia Association (CA)
8. Kandese Holford, MD Department of Transportation
9. Warren Wortman, bike advocate

#### **Absent:**

1. Larry Schoen, Multimodal Transportation Board
2. Donald Rucker, Patapsco Bicycles, Representative for retailers within the County (DP)
3. Doug Kampe, Howard County Public School System (DP)
4. Paul Walsky, Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks
5. Allison Calkins, Transportation Demand Management Specialist

#### **Office of Transportation:**

1. Chris Eatough, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator
2. David Cookson, Planning Manager
3. Carrie Anderson-Watters, Transit Manager
4. Brooks Phelps, GIS Specialist

#### **Other Attendees**

1. Antonio Paterniti, Trek
2. Barb Walters, DTCS
3. Cynthia Burch, BMC
4. Deni Deliallisi, consultant for Maryland Department of Transportation
5. Jeremiah Poehlman, HCPD
6. Julie Kwedar, Maryland Department of Transportation
7. Kris Singleton, Howard County Department of Public Works
8. Phil Westcott, Maryland Department of Transportation
9. Phil Scherer, resident



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## 1. Welcome

## 2. Review and approval

- a. Agenda
- b. Minutes from April 5, 2022 - Emily moves to approve the minutes. No discussion.  
The minutes approved. Agenda – no discussion. Approved as is.

## 3. Brief updates/discussion

- a. OOT staffing change – Introduction of Shirl Rogers (New Administrative Assistant) Departure of Molly Nur. There is a vacancy in the bike/pedestrian program area.
- b. FY 2023 Capital Budget
  - Announcement for County Executive's FY23 budget has been finalized. A significant increase in biking/pedestrian programs was included in the approved budget (8.2 million)
  - Chris Eatough provided a summary of all capital budget areas that comprise the bicycle pedestrian infrastructure items.
  - Summary of all budget areas are included later in presentation.
  - K5066 is highlighted but there are other bicycle projects elsewhere on the chart.
  - \$8.245M is a record total funding for bike, pedestrian, and Complete Streets projects.
  - Savage Complete Streets improvements are ongoing. The previous phase has been completed. The major focus was the older streets in Savage.
  - The final phase consisting of the Clarksville streetscape (T7108) is in the final design phase. Build outs are probably two to three years away.
- c. Complete Streets Updates
  - Design manual training completed for DPW and DPZ
  - Training videos have been completed and the public will have access to the videos.
  - Subdivision regulations review and updates are being set up (including consulting services).
  - Subdivision regulation updates will be done in conjunction with the General Plan updates.
  - Citizen representations will be included in the policy and planning aspects. Representatives will be strategically selected for the community at large. The nomination process is still under consideration.
- d. E-scooters
  - Mentioned previously. SPIN has a permit to operate in areas of Columbia, and the program will launch June 3, 2022
  - 100 to 200 scooters will be available in downtown Columbia, Oakland Mills, Wilde Lake, Harpers Choice and Hickory Ridge
  - There are 13 marked corals for the scooter storage. Additional corrals are being discussed
  - Helmets are not provided but encouraged
  - Howard County Office of Transportation is managing the permit process to ensure quality and customer satisfaction



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- Scooter versus bikeshare usage analysis was proposed
  - User demographics analysis was also proposed
- e. Bike Lanes through road resurfacing
- Virtual Public meeting will be held July 13, 2022
  - The four segments schedule for completion this year after re-pavement
  - Areas with the most cycle usage Jennings Chapel and Carrs Mill was discussed micro surfacing for chip & seals. Jennifer Biddle will request list of the roads for further details
- f. Bike Wayfinding routes and signs designs possible numbers verses colors
- Sign design that is MUTCD compliant was discussed.
  - Sign locations and installation process will be finalized with consultants.
  - First phase will include 4 routes, Maroon, Gray, Peach, Gold.
  - Height of signs was discussed. Currently 8 foot height clearance. 7 foot height clearance will be considered.
  - Also considering adding text on the sign to show route color.
- g. Past Events
1. BikeAround Downtown – held May 14-15
  2. Bike to Work Day was held May 20, 2022
- Total registered riders 1791 (339 Howard County registered riders)

#### 4. Key Topics

- a. *BikeHoward 2022 – Master Plan Update.* We are still planning to do an update later in 2022. Currently determining the scope of that effort. Will integrate some features and focus of the Design Manual. Additional interest in focusing more on outlying areas of the County that were not included in the original Bicycle Master Plan. Will require consultant support. More information to come. How to prioritize projects will be reconsidered. BAG will be involved.

**Comment:** *The last analysis was done in 2014. Traffic patterns and gas prices have changed since that time*

**Question:** *Are all bike routes in the bike wayfinding system outlined in the current plan?*

**Comment:** *Wayfinding routes and or a route that covers the entire county, should be covered in the master plan*

**Comment:** *Gaps in the network should be addressed*

**Comment:** *Howard County pathway network currently do not connect neighborhoods. I would be interested in hearing from the community if the road network solves this problem*

**Comment:** *Should emphasis bike connections to employment centers and between population centers*

- b. *Regional bike and pedestrian priorities.*
- BMC hosted workshop on 4/20/22.
  - Identified 16 bike and pedestrian priority projects in the region, 3 pertain to Howard County, completion on the Patuxent Branch Trail between



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Downtown Columbia and Savage, Route 1 corridor, Patapsco Regional Greenway.

- Public can provide input and advocacy to BMC.
- Connections to the regional priorities should be reflected in the BikeHoward update.

- c. MDOT/SHA Pedestrian Safety Action Plan update – Kandese Holford and Denila Deliallisi provided presentation materials.

Question: Is crash and fatality data considered?

Response: Yes, 2016 to 2019 data was used.

Question: Who is a good person with the state for obtaining crash data?

Response: Reach out to me (Kandese Holford)

- Howard County Strategic Road Safety Plan (David Cookson) – overview and status of implementation
- Plan developed process
- Plan strategies and actions items Public outreach initiatives outlined
- Safe Streets and Roads for All and More?
- HoCo By Design
- Long range plan looks at growth (e.g., new businesses). There is very little development at this point. Western part of County has limited opportunities. Lays out where the County is going to grow.
- How do we plan for infrastructure that supports growth (e.g., schools, roads, etc.)?
- Process has been led by DPZ with various stakeholder groups from the public. It was thought to be released this spring, but it was decided to allow more public interaction for each chapter (background on housing policies). A draft chapter has been released.
- Posted on HoCo by Design outreach to public on this chapter continues to this year. During summer, each of the topics will be released.
- Goal is to continue public engagement through end of 2022, then the full draft of the plan will be release at end of 2022. Council adoption process will likely begin in early 2023. Provides framework for growth and begins the comprehensive rezoning process.

### 5. Upcoming events

- a. July 4<sup>th</sup> bike corral, supported by Columbia Association, Howard County and Trek Bike Shop, also looking for volunteers.
  - b. Bike lanes through resurfacing virtual meeting 07/13/2022
6. **Open Discussion Period** – Biking from Ellicott City to Downtown Columbia is much easier than it used to be.
7. **Next meeting** – Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 3:00 PM (virtual)



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### **8. Adjournment**